

Federal-aid project must be representative of the amount that is earned and accrued while working on the project.

(b) Compensatory leave granted by an SHA or LPA in lieu of payment of overtime to eligible employees may be claimed for reimbursement if accrued and granted under established policies on a uniform basis. Such leave costs must meet the criteria discussed in paragraph (a) of this section.

(c) Costs for other leave of a similar nature which may be peculiar to a specific SHA or LPA may also be reimbursed provided it meets the criteria set forth in paragraph (a) of this section.

§ 140.711 Social security, retirement, and other payroll benefits.

(a) Federal funds may participate in allocable costs incurred for social security, retirement, group insurance premiums, and similar items applicable to salaries and wages of public employees engaged in work in Federal-aid projects.

(b) The costs for such benefits must be a liability of the SHA or LPA and must meet the criteria set forth in paragraph (a) of § 140.709.

§ 140.713 General administration and other overhead.

(a) General administration, supervision, and other unallowable overhead costs of an SHA are those considered necessary for the management, supervision, and administrative control of a suitably equipped, staffed and operational SHA. Examples of such unallowable costs may include, but are not limited to, the following types of personnel, related payroll benefit costs, and other administrative or support services;

(1) Directors, department heads, legal, accounting, budgeting, personnel, and procurement units.

(2) Related clerical, secretarial, and other support services for officials and personnel listed in paragraph (a)(1) of this section.

(3) Management, supervision, and administrative overhead costs incurred by other units or departments of State, county, or city governmental organizations.

(b) Costs incurred for services rendered by employees generally classified as administrative may, however, be considered eligible for reimbursement for:

(1) A highway planning unit and a research and development unit, in the ratio of time spent on the participating portion of work in the unit to the total unit's working hours, and

(2) Other operating units if such employees are assigned for specific identifiable periods of time to perform project-related activities in the same manner as other operating personnel.

[46 FR 3501, Jan. 15, 1981, as amended at 49 FR 45578, Nov. 19, 1984]

§ 140.715 Use of cost accumulation centers and cost distribution methods.

(a) Cost accumulation centers, i.e., cost centers, cost pools, or other acceptable cost accumulation methods, may be used to capture related types of costs for later distribution to all projects or other benefitting activities for which work was performed during the accounting period. The accounting and cost distribution procedures must be in accordance with paragraph (b) of this section for types of costs incurred under the following general criteria:

(1) Salaries, wages and related payroll benefit costs may be incurred during a payroll accounting period which affects a number of projects and, therefore, may not be easily adaptable to charging directly to individual projects due to such factors as (i) incompatibility of time increments for individual projects, (ii) an inordinate amount of time or additional number of documents to provide separate project coding, or (iii) a documented reduction of overhead costs in the elimination of processing source and coding required, increased electronic data processing applications, and additional accounting requirements.

(2) Small items of costs may be incurred which affect several projects and would result in a disproportionate amount of time and number of documents for separate project accounting in relation to the amount of costs involved.

(3) Items of costs may otherwise be eligible for reimbursement but, due to

their nature and the small amounts involved, they are not being claimed for reimbursement, since the additional overhead costs required for separate project coding and effective internal controls are not cost beneficial in relation to separate project reimbursable amounts.

(4) The items of costs must be directly attributable to and properly allocable to the projects to which they are distributed. They must not lose their identity, i.e., type, amount, purpose for which incurred, whether federally participating, input source, etc.

(b) The use of separate cost accumulation centers for comparably related types of costs is a prerequisite to the use of percentages, or other acceptable distribution methods, for cost distribution to benefitting projects or other activities. The accounting procedures and methods of distribution used must have prior concurrence of the Federal Highway Administration, be representative of average actual costs, and must assure that (1) costs are uniformly and equitably distributed to all projects and activities for which work was performed during the accounting period irrespective of source of funds, (2) provisions are established for an adequate segregation of costs and separate distribution methods for similarly related types of costs, (3) actual costs and liabilities are fully accounted for and controlled, and (4) that reviews are made periodically, and the rates or other distribution methods are adjusted at least once annually by any over or under-distributed accumulated costs from the cost accumulation center for the preceding accounting period.

(c) Percentages representative of average actual costs may be used to distribute leave, social security, and other payroll benefits. Such rates are based on prior cost experience adjusted by anticipated known factors which will affect overall costs during the current year, i.e., scheduled salary increases, changes anticipated in insurance premiums, etc.

Subpart H—State Highway Agency Audit Expense

SOURCE: 49 FR 45578, Nov. 19, 1984, unless otherwise noted.

§ 140.801 Purpose.

To establish the reimbursement criteria for Federal participation in project related audit expenses.

§ 140.803 Policy.

Project related audits performed in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards (as modified by the Comptroller General of the United States) and applicable Federal laws and regulations are eligible for Federal participation. The State highway agency (SHA) may use other State, local public agency, and Federal audit organizations as well as licensed or certified public accounting firms to augment its audit force.

§ 140.805 Definitions.

(a) *Project related audits.* Audits which directly benefit Federal-aid highway projects. Audits performed in accordance with the requirements of 23 CFR part 12, audits of third party contract costs, and other audits providing assurance that a recipient has complied with FHWA regulations are all considered project related audits. Audits benefitting only nonfederal projects, those performed for SHA management use only, or those serving similar nonfederal purposes are not considered project related.

(b) *Third party contract costs.* Project related costs incurred by railroads, utilities, consultants, governmental instrumentalities, universities, nonprofit organizations, construction contractors (force account work), and organizations engaged in right-of-way studies, planning, research, or related activities where the terms of a proposal or contract (including lump sum) necessitate an audit. Construction contracts (except force account work) are not included in this group.